The use of a software monitor as a source initiating the LCD flash charging of the phosphorescent-coated keys is optional and is included for purposes of completeness. As may be recalled, a monitor is a construct for allocating shared serially-reusable resources. In the context of this invention, any event could be defined as a monitor call provided that it sets an interrupt. One common event is that of a keyboard call. This is usually initiated by entry of a reserved word+function key and would have priority access to invoke the function through the monitor.

These and other extensions of the invention may be made without departing from the spirit and scope thereof as recited in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

**1**. A method for flash charging a plurality of phosphorescent-coated, touch-sensitive keys (**211**) operable as an information entry means of a notebook-type computer (**201**) residing within a base (**207**), said computer further including processing means also residing within said base for electrically and logically operating a planar, light-transmissive multicolor liquid crystal display (LCD), said LCD (**209**) being set within a lid (**203**) and rotationally coupling (**205**) the base, comprising the steps of:

(a) rotating the lid such that the LCD lies within an acute dihedral angle x opposing the plurality of keys set within the base in the range $0<x<A$ degrees, where A is a predetermined value; and

(b) causing the LCD responsive to the rotation of the lid as in step (a) to display and project a colored light (**215**) within an appropriate spectral-charging region upon the phosphorescent-coated keys for a predetermined period of time.

**2**. The method according to claim **1**, wherein the range of angles lies between zero and 15 degrees.

**3**. The method according to claim **1**, wherein the step of rotating the lid includes the step selected from a set consisting of rotating the lid from a position of closure with and away from the base but within the critical angle, and rotating the lid from a position greater than the critical angle toward the base so as to lie within the critical angle.

**4**. The method according to claim **1**, wherein the step of causing the LCD to display and project colored light includes the step of causing the LCD to display and project substantially white (polychromatic) light.

**5**. In a computer of the notebook type including a planar, light-transmissive multicolor liquid crystal display (LCD) set within a lid and rotationally coupling a base, and information entry and processing means residing within said base for electrically and logically operating said LCD, said information entry means forming a matrix of actuable touch-sensitive keys or the like and coated with phosphorescent information indicia on counterpart ones of the keys, the combination comprising:

first means responsive to positioning the lid to lie within a predetermined acute dihedral angle formed by the lid and the base for causing said LCD to illuminate said phosphorescent information indicia for a predetermined time interval and for signaling completion of such process; and

second means responsive to the completion of such process for engaging the processing means for causing the computer to transition to a prior or default information state.

**6**. The combination according to claim **5**, wherein the first means include means responsive to rotation of said lid from a closed position to within the predetermined acute dihedral angle when the computer is initially powered on and rotation from a position greater than the critical angle to a position within said critical angle.

**7**. The combination according to claim **5**, wherein the first means include monitor means responsive to any execution of a predetermined pattern of keystrokes when the computer is in a powered on and computational processing state.

**8**. The combination according to any one of the claims **6** through **7**, wherein the acute dihedral angle lies in a range greater than zero degrees and less than 15 degrees.

**9**. The combination according to claim **5**, wherein said coating phosphoresces within a predetermined spectral range after exposure to LCD-generated white light.

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